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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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07/695,682 05/03/91 SOUTHERN

E 07-573317 (26)

EXAMINER
MARSCHEL, A

18N1/1019

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK
SOUTHERN BLDG, STE 700
805 15TH ST, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

13

1807

DATE MAILED:

10/19/93

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

7/23/93

7/30/93

This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), 9 days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

- Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
- Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948.
- Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152.
- Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.
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Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. Claims _____ have been cancelled.

3. Claims 17-20, 22, and 23 are allowed.

4. Claims 1-16, 21, and 24 are rejected.

5. Claims _____ are objected to.

6. Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are acceptable. not acceptable (see explanation or Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948).

10. The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____ has (have) been approved by the examiner. disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____, has been approved. disapproved (see explanation).

12. Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has been received not been received been filed in parent application, serial no. _____; filed on _____.

13. Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. Other

EXAMINER'S ACTION

Applicant's arguments filed 7/23/93 and 7/30/93 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive to overcome the previously applied rejections. Rejections and/or objections not reiterated from previous office actions are hereby withdrawn. The following rejections and/or objections are either reiterated or newly applied. They constitute the complete set presently being applied to the instant application.

Claims 1-16, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The rejection of claims 1-16 and 21 is reiterated and maintained as given in the previous office action mailed 3/23/93 in that amending "chosen" to "defined" still leaves vague and indefinite what oligonucleotide practice is desired on the support for the same reasons as given for "chosen". Clarification is requested.

Claim 21 remains vague and indefinite in that the size is not defined as to normal considerations such as average size or maximum size. It is noted that laboratory filters as argued by applicants have size characteristics but these are generally either average pore size or maximum size. Neither is defined instantly. Clarification is requested.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-10, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Brigati et al.

This rejection is maintained and reiterated as given in the previous office action mailed 3/23/93. Applicant argues that defined reverse hybridization is being claimed. This is non-persuasive because the virus detection practice of Brigati et al. is a defined target and not just any target and therefore reads on the broad language of the instant claims.

Claims 1-4 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Saiki et al.

This rejection is maintained and reiterated as given in the previous office action mailed 3/23/93 for the same reasons as discussed for the above rejection.

Claims 17-20, 22, and 23 are allowable for reasons of record.

Claims 5, 7, 12-16, and 21 are allowable over the prior art of record for reasons of record.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The practice of automatically extending the shortened statutory period an

additional month upon the filing of a timely first response to a final rejection has been discontinued by the Office. See 1021 TMOG 35.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 180 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 180 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989).

The CM1 Fax Center number is either (703) 308-4227 or (703) 305-3014.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ardin Marschel, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (703) 308-3894.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

AM

A. MARSCHEL:am

October 18, 1993



MARGARET PARR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1800